

REPORT

DATE: April 7, 2005

TO: Regional Council and Administration Committee

FROM: Arnold San Miguel, Senior Government Affairs Analyst, (951) 784-3526
sanmigue@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Correspondence from the Tribal Governments

Please find attached two letters of correspondence from the Honorable Raymond Torres, Chairman, Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians:

- 1) The first letter invites the Southern California Association of Governments to a meeting with Tribal Governments 10:00 a.m., April 28, 2005 at the Agua Caliente Spa Resort Hotel, 100 North Indian Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. This meeting is a follow-up to the September 9, 2004 Summit organized by SCAG where the Tribal Governments in attendance indicated they would respond to language presented by SCAG staff.
- 2) The second letter is a copy of correspondence sent by the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians to each of the Tribal Governments in the SCAG Region inviting them to the April 28, 2005 meeting. This letter outlines the agenda for the April 28th meeting.





TORRES MARTINEZ DESERT CAHUILLA INDIAN TRIBE

P.O. Box 1160

Thermal, CA 92274

(760) 397-0300 - FAX (760) 397-8146

March 15, 2005

Honorable Ron Roberts, President
Southern California Association of Governments
43200 Business Park
Temecula, CA 92589 -- 9033

Dear President Roberts.

I would like to thank you for your leadership and support at the Tribal Summit meetings organized by the Southern California Association of Governments beginning in September of 2003.

Please plan on attending our next summit meeting at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 28th, 2005 at a location to be determined for the purpose of affirming the commitment of the Tribal Governments to continue to participate and communicate with SCAG on regional issues of common concern.

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter being sent to each Tribal Government in the SCAG region regarding the April 28th, summit. As a result of the letter you may receive correspondence from each of the Tribal Governments providing their input on how both SCAG and the respective Tribal Government will communicate and participate together in the regional planning process.

If you have any questions with regard to this letter, please call Joe Loya at (760) 397-0300 extension 139.

Sincerely

Raymond Torres, Chairman
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

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March 15, 2005

Dean Mike, Chairman
Twenty-Nine Band of Mission Indians
46-200 Harrison Place
Coachella, CA 92236-2031

Mr. Mike,

I would like to thank you for your attendance and support during the Tribal Summit meetings with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) that began in September of 2003.

SCAG presented DRAFT language to the Tribal Governments on September 9th, 2004 identifying SCAGs recognition of the importance of consultation with Native Americans, and its explicit consultation obligations, as well as SCAGs effort to reach out to the Native American Tribes within its region.

On November 1st, 2004 correspondence went out to the sixteen Tribes within the SCAG region. The Correspondence informed Tribes of the high interest in participating to establish a Tribal Government Advisory Board to the SCAG Regional Council.

There are still questions from Tribes and there are those that are not informed. However the opportunity to participate has been offered. Tribes do not need to take big steps; we can take small ones and progress, as we learn.

This correspondence is to recommend to the Tribal Governments located within the SCAG region, to hold one more Tribal Summit. Also, to agree on the concept originally presented by SCAG.

The agenda will cover five major issues.

1. To agree in concept the Tribal Governments intention to move forward and to establish Tribal Government Advisory Board.

- a. It is recommended that each Tribe write and send a letter to Ron Roberts, President of SCAG identifying their agreement or disagreement to the concept of establishing a Tribal Government Advisory Board at SCAG.
 - b. The letter will confirm their level of interest in participating in the discussions forthcoming that will identify the instrument to be used in establishing the Board, their responsibilities and how they fit into the existing organization chart of SCAG.
2. Each Tribal Government is given the opportunity to inform the SCAG Executive Council of their individual government.
 3. SCAG identifies how Tribal Governments will fit into SCAGs organizational chart.
 4. Recommend that we commemorate the event by adding this agreement to the 40th Anniversary of SCAGs existence.
 5. Overview of the Regional Transportation Plan and how working together can strengthen opportunities for both parties.

Please have your letters directed to Mr. Ron Roberts, Chairman Southern California Association of Governments 43200 Business Park Temecula, California 92589-9033 informing him of the tribe's decision to move forward in developing a Tribal Government Advisory Board

If you have any questions with regard to this letter, please call Joe Loya at (760) 397 -0300 extension #139.

Sincerely,



Raymond Torres, Chairman
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians